were affected by heavy rains/floods in the 3rd week of November and 1st week of December, 1993. While substantial damage to public and private properties has occurred, no human life has been lost in these floods.

(c) Pondicherry Administration evacuated the people from coastal villages and low lying areas and temporarily resettled them in evacuation camps. The Administration operated 116 camps and supplied 2.70 lakh free food packets to about 62000 evacuees.

(d) There is no provision for payment of any compensation to the victims. However, financial assistance will be extended by the U.T. Administration to the affected farmers and others for restoring damaged huts and for raising fresh cultivation etc. according to certain scales of assistance.

Self-sfficiency in oil seeds

2087. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Experts have expressed confidence that India will achieve self-sufficiency in oil seeds in a couple of years;

(b) if so, whether under the proposed scheme cultivation of Mustard was spreading in North-Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab and Oil Palm is being tried in Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Southern parts of Maharashtra;

(c) if so, whether these measures have achieved good results of production of palmoline;

(d) to what extent mustard Oil and Oil Palm production has increased in these States; and

(e) to what extent it has succeeded in achieving self-sufficiency in oil seeds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) The gestation period for oil palm is about four years. Full maturity takes about 7 years. Therefore, production of palm oil (Palmolein) can be expected by the turn of this century. However, the production of mustard has increased in Gujarat and Rajasthan.

(e) The production of oilseeds has increased from 11.27 in 1986-87 to 20.27 million tonnes in 1992-93 contributing to slef-sufficiency.

Production of rice

2088. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether rice production has increased after introduction of high yielding varieties;

(b) if so, whether to popularise the cultivation of rice in the country a Central Sector Minikits Programme of rice was started in 1972;

(c) if so, to what extent this programme has helped popularization of HYVs seeds;

(d) whether Special Rice Production Programme, Integrated Programme for Rice Development have also contributed in achieving these levels of rice production; and

(e) to what extent the production of rice was achieved in 1991-92, 1992-93 and to what extent the prospects of rice have further strengthened during 1992-93?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The implementaion of Rice Minikit Programme has helped in popularising the culivation of location specific High Yielding Varieties. Area under HYVs seed is estimated to have spread over about 28 million hectares, during 1992-93.

(d) Yes, Sir.